



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 649**

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**Chairperson:** Deb Fischer  
**Committee:** Transportation and Telecommunications  
**Date of Hearing:** March 10, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 649 would create a special permit for overweight vehicles when carrying grain from storage or stockpile outside of harvest, which is destined for a border state that has a greater maximum weight limit than Nebraska law allows.

The permit would allow for vehicles being operated for a distance up to sixty miles from the state line, destined for a border state, to be loaded to such border state's maximum weight or up to ten percent greater than the maximum weight specified by Nebraska law, whichever is less.

The new special permit created in LB 649 was modeled like the current harvest permit.

Currently, state weight limits are frozen by the federal government across the country creating the inability for states to change the limits except for allowing special permits for overweight vehicles in certain situations. LB 649 would recognize an additional situation when failure to transport grain in abundant quantities would cause economic loss to the person having their grain transported, because the majority of the trip is in a state with greater maximum weight limits. Loading your vehicle to the maximum limit of the border state could potentially save you several trips. Last summer, the economic loss was magnified even more because of the extremely high fuel costs.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Mark Christensen**